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Attorney Docket No.: 018484-001200US Client Ref. No.: MEBI 05/02 US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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By: Kathryn a. Degharten

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

Bridenbaugh et al.

Application No.: 09/121,798

Filed: July 23, 1998

For: METHODS FOR PURIFYING

**NUCLEIC ACIDS** 

Examiner:

Sandals, William

Art Unit:

1636

**AMENDMENT** 

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks. Applicants petition to extend the period for filing the response in the above identified application for three months. A Fee Transmittal authorizing the Commissioner to charge the petition fee to our deposit account is attached. For the convenience of the Examiner, a list of the pending claims is attached as Appendix I.